

Coming Out of Babylon

By

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(Emphasis added)

*In this teaching we will look at some of the scriptures of end time events, especially regarding those in Revelation, particularly chapters 17-18. Jesus spoke of end time events in the gospels, especially Matthew chapter 24. It is not the purpose of this teaching to cover all these scriptures in detail, (see the handout 'Revelation Revealed'), but rather here we will look at a specific command that God gave to His people in Revelation chapter 18. That command is to **come out of Babylon**. However, just what God meant by that command is left to interpretation. Therefore, I would recommend that you pray to the Holy Spirit for understanding as I discuss this principle, as not everyone will agree with what is said herein, (see Revelation 18:1-8).*

Revelation 18:1-8 -

¹After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. ²And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!" ³"For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury." ⁴And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "**Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.**" ⁵"For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. ⁶"Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. ⁷"In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.'" ⁸"Therefore her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her. ¹

Babylon in this scripture is not just a country or a nation of people as it was in Old Testament times. Babylon here is also referring to a system or organization that is linked to the economy of the world, as we will explain further below. Babylon, (a.k.a., Babel, which means 'confusion') as a nation, existed during the Old Testament times. Geographically it was located in the country that is now known as modern day Iraq. The society of Babel was started by a man called Nimrod. Nimrod was historically known to be a black man and the Bible tells us that he was a descendant of Ham. Ham was one of the three sons of Noah. After the flood, Ham was cursed by his father for being involved in a homosexual encounter with a drunken Noah. This curse is still in operation today, just as the curse of sin from Adam and Eve still operates today.

¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.*

The entire population of the earth came from the three sons of Noah - Shem, Ham and Japheth. The main three races of the earth, Dark, Caucasian and Oriental, were likely developed at the time of the tower of Babel, and came from these three men. Since Ham was cursed, his descendents, (the dark races) were and still are cursed. One of Ham's descendants was named Canaan. The Canaanites and their descendants were the enemies of God's people, the Israelites. The curse of Noah against Ham and his descendants, (the Canaanites) was that Ham's descendants, (the Dark race) would be the servants of the descendants of both Shem, (the Caucasian race) and Japheth, (the Oriental race). This is still the case today, (see Genesis chapter 9-11, esp. 9:20-27, 10:8-10 and 11:8-9).

Genesis Chapters 9-11 -

Chapter 9

¹So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. ²"And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move *on* the earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand. ³"Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs. ⁴"But you shall not eat flesh with its life, *that is*, its blood. ⁵"Surely for your lifeblood I will demand *a reckoning*; from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man. From the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man.

⁶ "Whoever sheds man's blood,
By man his blood shall be shed;
For in the image of God
He made man.

⁷ And as for you, be fruitful and multiply;
Bring forth abundantly in the earth
And multiply in it."

⁸Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying: ⁹"And as for Me, behold, I establish My covenant with you and with your descendants after you, ¹⁰"and with every living creature that *is* with you: the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you, of all that go out of the ark, every beast of the earth. ¹¹"Thus I establish My covenant with you: Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood; never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." ¹²And God said: "This *is* the sign of the covenant which I make between Me and you, and every living creature that *is* with you, for perpetual generations: ¹³"I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth. ¹⁴"It shall be, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the rainbow shall be seen in the cloud; ¹⁵"and I will remember My covenant which *is* between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶"The rainbow shall be in the cloud, and I will look on it to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that *is* on the earth." ¹⁷And God said to Noah, "This *is* the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that *is* on the earth."

¹⁸Now the sons of Noah who went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And Ham *was* the father of Canaan. ¹⁹These three *were* the sons of Noah, and from these the whole earth was populated.

²⁰And Noah began *to be* a farmer, and he planted a vineyard. ²¹Then he drank of the wine and was drunk, and became uncovered in his tent. ²²And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside. ²³But Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid *it* on both their shoulders, and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces *were* turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness.

²⁴So Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done to him. ²⁵Then he said:

“Cursed *be* Canaan;
A servant of servants
He shall be to his brethren.”

²⁶And he said:

“Blessed *be* the LORD,
The God of Shem,
And may Canaan be his servant.
²⁷ May God enlarge Japheth,
And may he dwell in the tents of Shem;
And may Canaan be his servant.”

²⁸And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years. ²⁹So all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years; and he died.

Chapter 10

¹Now this *is* the genealogy of the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And sons were born to them after the flood.

²The sons of Japheth *were* Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.

³The sons of Gomer *were* Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah. ⁴The sons of Javan *were* Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. ⁵From these the coastland *peoples* of the Gentiles were separated into their lands, everyone according to his language, according to their families, into their nations.

⁶The sons of Ham *were* Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan. ⁷The sons of Cush *were* Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabtechah; and the sons of Raamah *were* Sheba and Dedan. ⁸Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth. ⁹He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, “Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.” ¹⁰And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. ¹¹From that land he went to Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah, ¹²and Resen between Nineveh and Calah (that *is* the principal city). ¹³Mizraim begot Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim, ¹⁴Pathrusim, and Casluhim (from whom came the Philistines and Caphtorim).

¹⁵Canaan begot Sidon his firstborn, and Heth; ¹⁶the Jebusite, the Amorite, and the Girgashite; ¹⁷the Hivite, the Arkite, and the Sinite; ¹⁸the Arvadite, the Zemarite, and the Hamathite. Afterward the families of the Canaanites were dispersed. ¹⁹And the border of the Canaanites was from Sidon as you go toward Gerar, as far as Gaza; then as you go toward Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, as far as Lasha. ²⁰These *were* the sons of Ham, according to their families, according to their languages, in their lands *and* in their nations.

²¹And *children* were born also to Shem, the father of all the children of Eber, the brother of Japheth the elder. ²²The sons of Shem *were* Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud, and Aram. ²³The sons of Aram *were* Uz, Hul, Gether, and Mash. ²⁴Arphaxad begot Salah, and Salah begot Eber. ²⁵To Eber were born two sons: the name of one *was* Peleg, for in his days the earth was divided; and his brother's name *was* Joktan. ²⁶Joktan begot Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, ²⁷Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, ²⁸Obal, Abimael, Sheba, ²⁹Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab. All these *were* the sons of Joktan. ³⁰And their dwelling place was from Mesha as you go toward Sephar, the mountain of the east. ³¹These *were* the sons of Shem, according to their families, according to their languages, in their lands, according to their nations.

³²These *were* the families of the sons of Noah, according to their generations, in their nations; and from these the nations were divided on the earth after the flood.

Chapter 11

¹Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. ²And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. ³Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake *them* thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. ⁴And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top *is* in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." ⁵But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. ⁶And the LORD said, "Indeed the people *are* one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. ⁷"Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." ⁸**So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. ⁹Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.**

¹⁰This *is* the genealogy of Shem: Shem *was* one hundred years old, and begot Arphaxad two years after the flood. ¹¹After he begot Arphaxad, Shem lived five hundred years, and begot sons and daughters.

¹²Arphaxad lived thirty-five years, and begot Salah. ¹³After he begot Salah, Arphaxad lived four hundred and three years, and begot sons and daughters.

¹⁴Salah lived thirty years, and begot Eber. ¹⁵After he begot Eber, Salah lived four hundred and three years, and begot sons and daughters.

¹⁶Eber lived thirty-four years, and begot Peleg. ¹⁷After he begot Peleg, Eber lived four hundred and thirty years, and begot sons and daughters.

¹⁸Peleg lived thirty years, and begot Reu. ¹⁹After he begot Reu, Peleg lived two hundred and nine years, and begot sons and daughters.

²⁰Reu lived thirty-two years, and begot Serug. ²¹After he begot Serug, Reu lived two hundred and seven years, and begot sons and daughters.

²²Serug lived thirty years, and begot Nahor. ²³After he begot Nahor, Serug lived two hundred years, and begot sons and daughters.

²⁴Nahor lived twenty-nine years, and begot Terah. ²⁵After he begot Terah, Nahor lived one hundred and nineteen years, and begot sons and daughters.

²⁶Now Terah lived seventy years, and begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran.

²⁷This *is* the genealogy of Terah: Terah begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Haran begot Lot. ²⁸And Haran died before his father Terah in his native land, in Ur of the Chaldeans. ²⁹Then Abram and Nahor took wives: the name of Abram's wife *was* Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and the father of Iscah. ³⁰But Sarai was barren; she had no child. ³¹And Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out with them from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to the land of Canaan; and they came to Haran and dwelt there. ³²So the days of Terah were two hundred and five years, and Terah died in Haran.²

*The only way the curse of Noah over Ham, or any curse, can be broken is through Jesus Christ. The long time feud between the light skinned people and the dark skinned people has been a result of this one act of Ham. It is also the root cause of what we know today as racism. Racism is not of God, and was never taught by Jesus. Even the Gentiles, (i.e., all non-Israelites) were offered salvation through Jesus. **God does not care what color a person's skin is. He cares what is in a person's heart, whether or not they will obey Him, be they slave or free,** (see , Galatians 3:13-14, Isaiah 49:6, Acts 10:34 - 11:18, I Corinthians 7:17-24, I Corinthians 12:12, Galatians 3:26-28 and Colossians 3:1-11).*

Galatians 3:13-14 -

¹³**Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us** (for it is written, "Cursed *is* everyone who hangs on a tree"), ¹⁴that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.³

Isaiah 49:6 - (Speaking of Jesus)

⁶ Indeed He says,
 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant
 To raise up the tribes of Jacob,
 And to restore the preserved ones of Israel;
I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles,
 That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.'⁴

Acts 10:34 - 11:18 -

³⁴Then Peter opened *his* mouth and said: "**In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality.** ³⁵**But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is**

²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.*

³*The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.*

⁴*The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.*

accepted by Him. ³⁶“The word which *God* sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord of all— ³⁷“that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: ³⁸“how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. ³⁹“And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree. ⁴⁰“Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly, ⁴¹“not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, *even* to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. ⁴²“And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God *to be* Judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³“To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.”

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. ⁴⁵And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because **the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.** ⁴⁶For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, ⁴⁷“Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we *have*?” ⁴⁸And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.

Chapter 11

¹Now the apostles and brethren who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. ²And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, those of the circumcision contended with him, ³saying, “You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!” ⁴But Peter explained *it* to them in order from the beginning, saying: ⁵“I was in the city of Joppa praying; and in a trance I saw a vision, an object descending like a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came to me. ⁶“When I observed it intently and considered, I saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. ⁷“And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘**Rise, Peter; kill and eat.**’ ⁸“But I said, ‘Not so, Lord! For nothing common or unclean has at any time entered my mouth.’ ⁹“But the voice answered me again from heaven, ‘**What God has cleansed you must not call common.**’ ¹⁰“Now this was done three times, and all were drawn up again into heaven. ¹¹“At that very moment, three men stood before the house where I was, having been sent to me from Caesarea. ¹²“Then the Spirit told me to go with them, doubting nothing. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³“And he told us how he had seen an angel standing in his house, who said to him, ‘Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon whose surname is Peter, ¹⁴‘who will tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved.’ ¹⁵“And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶“Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, ‘**John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.**’ ¹⁷“If therefore God gave them the same gift as *He gave* us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?”

¹⁸When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, **“Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life.”**⁵

I Corinthians 7:17-24 -

¹⁷But as God has distributed to each one, as the Lord has called each one, so let him walk. And so I ordain in all the churches. ¹⁸Was anyone called while circumcised? Let him not become uncircumcised. Was anyone called while uncircumcised? Let him not be circumcised. ¹⁹**Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing, but keeping the commandments of God is what matters.** ²⁰Let each one remain in the same calling in which he was called. ²¹Were you called *while* a slave? Do not be concerned about it; but if you can be made free, rather use it. ²²For he who is called in the Lord *while* a slave is the Lord’s freedman. Likewise he who is called *while* free is Christ’s slave. ²³You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men. ²⁴Brethren, let each one remain with God in that *state* in which he was called.⁶

I Corinthians 12:12 -

¹²For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. ¹³For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—**whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.** ⁷

Galatians 3:26-28 -

²⁶For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.⁸

Colossians 3:1-11 -

Living the New Life

3 Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits at God’s right hand in the place of honor and power. ² Let heaven fill your thoughts. Do not think only about things down here on earth. ³ For you

⁵*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁶*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁷*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁸*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

died when Christ died, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ And when Christ, who is your real life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.

⁵ So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual sin, impurity, lust, and shameful desires. Don't be greedy for the good things of this life, for that is idolatry. ⁶ God's terrible anger will come upon those who do such things. ⁷ You used to do them when your life was still part of this world. ⁸ But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language. ⁹ Don't lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old evil nature and all its wicked deeds. ¹⁰ In its place you have clothed yourselves with a brand-new nature that is continually being renewed as you learn more and more about Christ, who created this new nature within you. ¹¹ **In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us.**⁹

Jesus instructed us to love everyone, even our enemies. We must all treat every human being with the proper respect as they are made in the image of God. This is one of the ways we know we have reached perfection, which is required of us, (see Matthew 5:43-48 and the handout, 'The Path to Perfection').

Matthew 5:43-48 -

⁴³“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴“**But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,** ⁴⁵“**that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.** ⁴⁶“For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷“And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more *than others*? Do not even the tax collectors do so? ⁴⁸“**Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.**¹⁰

Therefore, there is NO EXCUSE for anyone anywhere, regardless of race color or creed to mistreat anyone else. How can we say we love God whom we have not seen, when we cannot even treat other humans made in His image with proper respect? See Matthew 7:12, I John 4:20-21 and Luke 10:25-37.

Matthew 7:12 -

⁹*Holy Bible, New Living Translation*, (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.) 1996.

¹⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹²“Therefore, **whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them**, for this is the Law and the Prophets.¹¹

I John 4:20-21 -

²⁰**If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?** ²¹And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God *must* love his brother also.¹²

Luke 10:25-37 -

²⁵And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶He said to him, **“What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?”** ²⁷So he answered and said, “ ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,’ and ‘your neighbor as yourself.’ ” ²⁸And He said to him, **“You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.”** ²⁹But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰Then Jesus answered and said: **“A certain *man* went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded *him*, and departed, leaving *him* half dead. ³¹“Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²“Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. ³³“But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴“So he went to *him* and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵“On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave *them* to the innkeeper, and said to him, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.’ ³⁶“So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?” ³⁷And he said, “He who showed mercy on him.” Then Jesus said to him, **“Go and do likewise.”**¹³**

We must not use the grace that God has given to us through Jesus Christ in order to do things our own way, to perform evil or mistreat others regardless of their race or background, (see the book of Jude and I Peter 2:15-17).

Jude -

Jude

¹Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James,

¹¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹³*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ:
²Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

³Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. ⁴For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. ⁶And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; ⁷as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. ⁸Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries. ⁹Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!" ¹⁰But these speak evil of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves. ¹¹Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

¹²These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving *only* themselves. *They are* clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots; ¹³raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever. ¹⁴Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, ¹⁵"to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

¹⁶These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling *words*, flattering people to gain advantage. ¹⁷But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: ¹⁸how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. ¹⁹These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.

²⁰But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. ²²And on some have compassion, making a distinction; ²³but others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

²⁴ Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling,
 And to present *you* faultless
 Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,
²⁵ To God our Savior,
 Who alone is wise,

Be glory and majesty,
 Dominion and power,
 Both now and forever.
 Amen.¹⁴

I Peter 2:15-17 -

¹⁵ It is God's will that your good lives should silence those who make foolish accusations against you. ¹⁶ **You are not slaves; you are free. But your freedom is not an excuse to do evil. You are free to live as God's slaves.** ¹⁷ **Show respect for everyone. Love your Christian brothers and sisters. Fear God. Show respect for the king.**¹⁵

In the days of old, God chose to bless Abram, (whose name God later changed to Abraham, which means 'Father of a Multitude') who came from the line of Shem. The descendants of Abram, (Abraham) were to be blessed above all the people of the earth, and through Abraham all the people of the earth would be blessed, (i.e., through Jesus who was a descendant of Abraham). God told him that He would personally bless anyone who blessed Abraham and his descendants and He would personally curse anyone who cursed Abraham and his descendants. This promise extends to anyone who receives Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Anyone who receives Jesus Christ automatically becomes a child of Abraham through Jesus, (see Genesis 3:1-3, Matthew 1:1-17, and Galatians 3:29).

Genesis 3:1-3 -

¹Now the LORD had said to Abram:

“Get out of your country,
 From your family
 And from your father's house,
 To a land that I will show you.

² I will make you a great nation;

I will bless you
 And make your name great;
 And you shall be a blessing.

³ **I will bless those who bless you,
 And I will curse him who curses you;**

And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”¹⁶

¹⁴*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹⁵*Holy Bible, New Living Translation*, (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.) 1996.

¹⁶*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

Matthew 1:1-17 -

¹**The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:** ²Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. ³Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. ⁴Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. ⁵Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, ⁶and Jesse begot David the king.

David the king begot Solomon by her *who had been the wife* of Uriah. ⁷Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. ⁸Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. ⁹Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. ¹⁰Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. ¹¹Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon.

¹²And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. ¹³Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. ¹⁴Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. ¹⁵Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. ¹⁶And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. ¹⁷So all the generations from Abraham to David *are* fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon *are* fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ *are* fourteen generations.¹⁷

Galatians 3:29 -

²⁹**And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and now all the promises God gave to him belong to you.**¹⁸

*The civilization of Babel and its related cities were developed through people that were rebellious toward God, (i.e., the descendants of Ham). They were cursed though Adam and Noah. Therefore, these civilizations developed according to their own desires under demonic direction and continued to be in rebellion toward God, and so are to this day. It is only through repentance from these ways and putting faith in God through Jesus Christ that anyone can come out from under the negative circumstances surrounding these curses. Many of the descendants of Ham, (i.e., the dark races) anywhere in the world, still involve themselves in mystical rituals, witchcraft, voodoo, calling up ancestors, following witch doctors and mystics, etc. **These things are all from the Devil and against God.** When the Israelites went into the Promised Land of Canaan, they were instructed by God to avoid becoming involved in any of the rituals and worship practices of the people of the land they were going in to take over, because these rituals and practices are of demonic origin, (see Leviticus 20:22-27).*

¹⁷*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹⁸*Holy Bible, New Living Translation*, (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.) 1996.

Leviticus 20:22-27 -

²²“You shall therefore keep all My statutes and all My judgments, and perform them, that the land where I am bringing you to dwell may not vomit you out. ²³“And you shall not walk in the statutes of the nation which I am casting out before you; for they commit all these things, and therefore I abhor them. ²⁴“But I have said to you, “You shall inherit their land, and I will give it to you to possess, a land flowing with milk and honey.” I *am* the LORD your God, who has separated you from the peoples. ²⁵“You shall therefore distinguish between clean animals and unclean, between unclean birds and clean, and you shall not make yourselves abominable by beast or by bird, or by any kind of living thing that creeps on the ground, which I have separated from you as unclean. ²⁶“And you shall be holy to Me, for I the LORD *am* holy, and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be Mine.

²⁷“**A man or a woman who is a medium, or who has familiar spirits, shall surely be put to death; they shall stone them with stones. Their blood *shall be* upon them.’**”¹⁹

God only speaks through His people and primarily His prophets. In fact, God does nothing without first telling His prophets. Anyone who calls themselves a psychic, spiritualist, medium, witch, warlock, witch doctor, etc. operates through the power of the Kingdom of Darkness ruled by the Devil. Anyone who does these things will come under God's judgment, as Saul the first king of Israel did, and ultimately end up in the lake of fire and die the second eternal death, (see Amos 3:7 and Deuteronomy 18:9-22, and in Vv. 15-19, Moses here is speaking of Jesus, I Chronicles 10:13-14 and Revelation 21:1-8, esp. v. 8).

Amos 3:7 -

⁷ Surely the Lord GOD does nothing,
Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.²⁰

Deuteronomy 18:9-22 -

⁹“When you come into the land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. ¹⁰“**There shall not be found among you *anyone* who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer,** ¹¹“**or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.** ¹²“**For all who do these things *are* an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out from before you.** ¹³“You

¹⁹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

²⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

shall be blameless before the LORD your God. ¹⁴“For these nations which you will dispossess listened to soothsayers and diviners; but as for you, the LORD your God has not appointed such for you.

¹⁵“The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear, ¹⁶“according to all you desired of the LORD your God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, nor let me see this great fire anymore, lest I die.’ ¹⁷“And the LORD said to me: ‘What they have spoken is good. ¹⁸‘I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. ¹⁹‘And it shall be *that* whoever will not hear My words, which He speaks in My name, I will require *it* of him. ²⁰‘But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.’ ²¹“And if you say in your heart, ‘How shall we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?’—²²“when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that *is* the thing which the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.²¹

I Chronicles 10:13-14 -

¹³So Saul died for his unfaithfulness which he had committed against the LORD, because he did not keep the word of the LORD, and also because he consulted a medium for guidance. ¹⁴But *he* did not inquire of the LORD; therefore He killed him, and turned the kingdom over to David the son of Jesse.²²

Revelation 21:1-8 -

¹Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. ²Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. ⁴“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” ⁵Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” And He said to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful.” ⁶And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. ⁷“He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. ⁸“But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers,

²¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

²²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”²³

If the people who operate in the ways of Satan repent of their wrongdoing, receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and stop doing these things, then they can come out from under the curse of both Adam and Noah through his son Ham, or any other curse. They may then become blessed by God. However, most of the people even in so called Christian nations involve themselves in the things of the Devil. Even the holidays such as Easter, Christmas and Halloween are rooted in pagan traditions, which we as God’s people are told to have no part of, (see Exodus 34:8-17 and Ephesians chapters 2-4).

Exodus 34:8-17 -

⁸ Moses immediately fell to the ground and worshiped. ⁹ And he said, “If it is true that I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, then please go with us. Yes, this is an unruly and stubborn people, but please pardon our iniquity and our sins. Accept us as your own special possession.”

¹⁰ The LORD replied, “All right. This is the covenant I am going to make with you. I will perform wonders that have never been done before anywhere in all the earth or in any nation. And all the people around you will see the power of the LORD—the awesome power I will display through you. ¹¹ Your responsibility is to obey all the commands I am giving you today. Then I will surely drive out all those who stand in your way—the Amorites, Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites.

¹² **“Be very careful never to make treaties with the people in the land where you are going. If you do, you soon will be following their evil ways. ¹³ Instead, you must break down their pagan altars, smash the sacred pillars they worship, and cut down their carved images. ¹⁴ You must worship no other gods, but only the LORD, for he is a God who is passionate about his relationship with you.**

¹⁵ **“Do not make treaties of any kind with the people living in the land. They are spiritual prostitutes, committing adultery against me by sacrificing to their gods. If you make peace with them, they will invite you to go with them to worship their gods, and you are likely to do it. ¹⁶ And you will accept their daughters, who worship other gods, as wives for your sons. Then they will cause your sons to commit adultery against me by worshiping other gods. ¹⁷ You must make no gods for yourselves at all.²⁴**

Ephesians Chapters 2-4 -

Made Alive with Christ

2 **Once you were dead, doomed forever because of your many sins. ² You used to live just like the rest of the world, full of sin, obeying Satan, the mighty prince of the**

²³*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

²⁴*Holy Bible, New Living Translation*, (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.) 1996.

power of the air. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. ³ All of us used to live that way, following the passions and desires of our evil nature. We were born with an evil nature, and we were under God's anger just like everyone else.

⁴ But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so very much, ⁵ that even while we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's special favor that you have been saved!) ⁶ For he raised us from the dead along with Christ, and we are seated with him in the heavenly realms—all because we are one with Christ Jesus. ⁷ And so God can always point to us as examples of the incredible wealth of his favor and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us through Christ Jesus.

⁸ God saved you by his special favor when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. ⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. ¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so that we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Oneness and Peace in Christ

¹¹ Don't forget that you Gentiles used to be outsiders by birth. You were called "the uncircumcised ones" by the Jews, who were proud of their circumcision, even though it affected only their bodies and not their hearts. ¹² In those days you were living apart from Christ. You were excluded from God's people, Israel, and you did not know the promises God had made to them. You lived in this world without God and without hope. ¹³ But now you belong to Christ Jesus. Though you once were far away from God, now you have been brought near to him because of the blood of Christ.

¹⁴ For Christ himself has made peace between us Jews and you Gentiles by making us all one people. He has broken down the wall of hostility that used to separate us. ¹⁵ By his death he ended the whole system of Jewish law that excluded the Gentiles. His purpose was to make peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new person from the two groups. ¹⁶ Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death, and our hostility toward each other was put to death. ¹⁷ He has brought this Good News of peace to you Gentiles who were far away from him, and to us Jews who were near. ¹⁸ Now all of us, both Jews and Gentiles, may come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us.

A Temple for the Lord

¹⁹ So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. ²⁰ We are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. ²¹ We who believe are carefully joined together, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. ²² Through him you Gentiles are also joined together as part of this dwelling where God lives by his Spirit.

God's Secret Plan Revealed

³ I, Paul, am a prisoner of Christ Jesus because of my preaching to you Gentiles. ² As you already know, God has given me this special ministry of announcing his favor to you Gentiles. ³ As I briefly mentioned earlier in this letter, God himself revealed his secret plan to me. ⁴ As you read what I have written, you will understand what I know about this plan regarding Christ. ⁵ God did not reveal it to previous generations, but now he has revealed it by the Holy Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets.

⁶ **And this is the secret plan: The Gentiles have an equal share with the Jews in all the riches inherited by God's children. Both groups have believed the Good News, and both are part of the same body and enjoy together the promise of blessings through Christ Jesus.** ⁷ By God's special favor and mighty power, I have been given the wonderful privilege of serving him by spreading this Good News.

⁸ Just think! Though I did nothing to deserve it, and though I am the least deserving Christian there is, I was chosen for this special joy of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ. ⁹ I was chosen to explain to everyone this plan that God, the Creator of all things, had kept secret from the beginning.

¹⁰ God's purpose was to show his wisdom in all its rich variety to all the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms. They will see this when Jews and Gentiles are joined together in his church. ¹¹ This was his plan from all eternity, and it has now been carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord.

¹² Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come fearlessly into God's presence, assured of his glad welcome. ¹³ So please don't despair because of what they are doing to me here. It is for you that I am suffering, so you should feel honored and encouraged.

Paul's Prayer for Spiritual Empowering

¹⁴ When I think of the wisdom and scope of God's plan, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, ¹⁵ the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. ¹⁶ I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you mighty inner strength through his Holy Spirit. ¹⁷ And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love. ¹⁸ And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love really is. ¹⁹ May you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

²⁰ Now glory be to God! By his mighty power at work within us, he is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope. ²¹ May he be given glory in the church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever through endless ages. Amen.²⁵

Babel, or Babylon, originated from people who followed the Devil and his demons. They were against everything God stands for. Therefore, virtually every scripture in the Bible referring to Babylon reveals God's negative attitude towards it and its people. What God is referring to in the scriptures in Revelation chapter 18 above is a prophecy for the future. Babylon in these scriptures is not so much a particular country as much as it is a

way of life. The scriptures also probably apply to a country, but not the Babylon of Old Testament times. It refers instead to a different country or countries that operate in the ancient Babylonian principles of impatience, selfishness and greed. God makes the connection between Lucifer, or Satan, and Babylon in Isaiah 14:1-23...

Isaiah 14:1-23 -

¹For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will still choose Israel, and settle them in their own land. The strangers will be joined with them, and they will cling to the house of Jacob. ²Then people will take them and bring them to their place, and the house of Israel will possess them for servants and maids in the land of the LORD; they will take them captive whose captives they were, and rule over their oppressors.

³**It shall come to pass in the day the LORD gives you rest from your sorrow, and from your fear and the hard bondage in which you were made to serve, ⁴that you will take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say:**

“How the oppressor has ceased,
The golden city ceased!
⁵ The LORD has broken the staff of the wicked,
The scepter of the rulers;
⁶ He who struck the people in wrath with a continual stroke,
He who ruled the nations in anger,
Is persecuted *and* no one hinders.
⁷ The whole earth is at rest *and* quiet;
They break forth into singing.
⁸ Indeed the cypress trees rejoice over you,
And the cedars of Lebanon,
Saying, ‘Since you were cut down,
No woodsman has come up against us.’
⁹ “Hell from beneath is excited about you,
To meet *you* at your coming;
It stirs up the dead for you,
All the chief ones of the earth;
It has raised up from their thrones
All the kings of the nations.
¹⁰ They all shall speak and say to you:
‘Have you also become as weak as we?
Have you become like us?’
¹¹ Your pomp is brought down to Sheol,
And the sound of your stringed instruments;
The maggot is spread under you,
And worms cover you.’
¹² **“How you are fallen from heaven,
O Lucifer, son of the morning!
How you are cut down to the ground,
You who weakened the nations!**
¹³ **For you have said in your heart:**

**‘I will ascend into heaven,
 I will exalt my throne above the stars of God;
 I will also sit on the mount of the congregation
 On the farthest sides of the north;
 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,
 I will be like the Most High.’
 15 Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol,
 To the lowest depths of the Pit.
 16 “Those who see you will gaze at you,
And consider you, saying:
**‘Is this the man who made the earth tremble,
 Who shook kingdoms,
 17 Who made the world as a wilderness
 And destroyed its cities,
 Who did not open the house of his prisoners?’**
 18 “All the kings of the nations,
 All of them, sleep in glory,
 Everyone in his own house;
 19 But you are cast out of your grave
 Like an abominable branch,
Like the garment of those who are slain,
 Thrust through with a sword,
 Who go down to the stones of the pit,
 Like a corpse trodden underfoot.
 20 You will not be joined with them in burial,
 Because you have destroyed your land
And slain your people.
 The brood of evildoers shall never be named.
 21 **Prepare slaughter for his children
 Because of the iniquity of their fathers,
 Lest they rise up and possess the land,
 And fill the face of the world with cities.”**
 22 **“For I will rise up against them,” says the LORD of hosts,
 “And cut off from Babylon the name and remnant,
 And offspring and posterity,” says the LORD.**
 23 **“I will also make it a possession for the porcupine,
 And marshes of muddy water;
 I will sweep it with the broom of destruction,” says the LORD of hosts.**²⁶**

Babylon was the first civilization given credit historically for developing a banking system...

History of Banking

²⁶*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

Safe in the temple: 18th century BC

Wealth compressed into the convenient form of gold brings one disadvantage. Unless well hidden or protected, it is easily stolen.

In early civilizations a temple is considered the safest refuge; it is a solid building, constantly attended, with a sacred character which itself may deter thieves. In Egypt and Mesopotamia gold is deposited in temples for safe-keeping. But it lies idle there, while others in the trading community or in government have desperate need of it. **In Babylon at the time of Hammurabi, in the 18th century BC, there are records of loans made by the priests of the temple. The concept of banking has arrived.** ²⁷

As we know, today the banking system which originated in Babylon has developed into a worldwide economic system that is widely interconnected. The banks of the world have gone overboard loaning money to everyone and anyone they could in order to make a profit. Because of their greed, they have put the majority of the population of the world into debt or poverty! Now that approach has led the countries of the world to the brink of economic disaster. Most of this type of activity is and has been centered in the United States, particularly in New York City. Therefore, the concept of 'Babylon' as regards the world's economic banking system can be said to be centered in the United States, (in New York City), even though the ancient capital of Babylon geographically existed just south of the current capital of Iraq, (i.e., Baghdad). This is why the allies, led by the United States, have invaded and currently occupy Iraq. That way, the prophecies that speak about Babylon will apply to the United States in particular, and especially New York City. The United States and its allies occupy the geographic Babylon, and are the 'spiritual' Babylon as well. No one will be able to find fault with God for applying the prophecies relating to 'Babylon' to the world's economic/banking system, and the United States in particular. Having said that, let's look at Revelation chapters 17-18...

Revelation Chapters 17-18 -

Chapter 17

¹Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, ²"with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication."³ So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. **And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.** ⁴The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. ⁵And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. ⁶I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with

²⁷From <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?historyid=ac19>

the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.

⁷But the angel said to me, “Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. ⁸“The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. ⁹“Here *is* the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. ¹⁰“There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, *and* the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time. ¹¹“And the beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition. ¹²“The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. ¹³“These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴“These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those *who are* with Him *are* called, chosen, and faithful.” ¹⁵Then he said to me, “The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. ¹⁶“**And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire.** ¹⁷“**For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.** ¹⁸“**And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.”**

Chapter 18

¹After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. ²And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, “Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! ³“For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.” ⁴And I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. ⁵“For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. ⁶“Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. ⁷“In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, ‘I sit *as* queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.’ ⁸“Therefore her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong *is* the Lord God who judges her.

⁹“The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning, ¹⁰“standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.’ ¹¹“And the

merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore: ¹²“merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble; ¹³“and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and bodies and souls of men. ¹⁴“The fruit that your soul longed for has gone from you, and all the things which are rich and splendid have gone from you, and you shall find them no more at all. ¹⁵“**The merchants of these things, who became rich by her, will stand at a distance for fear of her torment, weeping and wailing,** ¹⁶“and saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city that was clothed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls!’ ¹⁷“**For in one hour such great riches came to nothing.’** Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea, stood at a distance ¹⁸“and cried out when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, ‘What is like this great city?’ ¹⁹“They threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and wailing, and saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city, in which all who had ships on the sea became rich by her wealth! For in one hour she is made desolate.’ ²⁰“Rejoice over her, O heaven, and *you* holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!”

²¹Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw *it* into the sea, saying, “Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore. ²²“The sound of harpists, musicians, flutists, and trumpeters shall not be heard in you anymore. No craftsman of any craft shall be found in you anymore, and the sound of a millstone shall not be heard in you anymore. ²³“The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived. ²⁴“And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth.”²⁸

The woman called ‘Mystery Babylon’ as described in Revelation chapter 17 is really New York City, (see Revelation 17:18 above). New York City is the only city that fits the description of this future prophecy. All the economic systems of the world revolve around New York City and the Dow Jones Industrial stock market. All the evil things that go on in the world that people profit from are centered in New York, and similar cities around the world. When the terrorists attacked the World Trade Center twin towers on September 11, 2001, the prophecy of Revelation 18 was fulfilled in part. We will call this the ‘first visitation’. God often visits twice. Jesus came the first time in power, but His second coming will be in POWER! The true fulfillment of these scriptures will likely be a nuclear strike, as the verses in Revelation 18:21-23 imply that the city will never function as a city anymore after God’s judgment has come upon it. The residual radiation will prevent people from returning to the city. This judgment will come at the hands of the ten horns of the ‘Beast’, who will burn the woman, (i.e., New York City) with fire, (see Revelation 17:16-17 above). The World Trade Center twin towers collapsed because of fire. This incident was symbolic of the final judgment of God for New York City. A

²⁸The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

nuclear strike will likely be the type of fire the Muslims and their allies will hit New York City with for the ultimate fulfillment of these prophecies, (see also the handout 'Revelation Revealed').

*This is one of the reasons that God wants His people to leave 'Babylon'. In His warning in Revelation 18:5 above, God tells His people to come out of Babylon. I believe that this warning applies not only to the natural, (i.e., physically leaving New York City and the United States), but I believe He wants His people to leave the way of the 'Babylonian lifestyle'. The Babylonian lifestyle is the way of life where people obtain things by taking out loans from the banking and credit industry. People must come out of this 'spiritual Babylon'. **Being in debt to 'Babylon', (i.e., the world's banking system) is being in 'spiritual Babylon', because we are chasing things rather than God, and we become friends of the world. God considers this 'spiritual adultery', and calls it committing fornication with Babylon, (see James 4:1-4 and Revelation 18:3 above).***

James 4:1-4 -

4 What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Isn't it the whole army of evil desires at war within you? ²You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous for what others have, and you can't possess it, so you fight and quarrel to take it away from them. And yet the reason you don't have what you want is that you don't ask God for it. ³And even when you do ask, you don't get it because your whole motive is wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.

⁴You adulterers! Don't you realize that friendship with this world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again, that if your aim is to enjoy this world, you can't be a friend of God. 29

Being in debt to obtain this world's things is the opposite of how God wants His people to live. God wants His people to walk in love. The first and most important characteristic of love is PATIENCE. When Babylon, (i.e., the banking system) puts people, especially God's people, in debt, it 'bleeds' them figuratively speaking. God is tired of Babylon being 'drunk' with the blood of His Saints, (i.e., Christians). See I Corinthians 13:4-7, and Revelation 17:6 above.

I Corinthians 13:4-7 -

⁴Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud ⁵or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. ⁶It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. ⁷Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.³⁰

²⁹*Holy Bible, New Living Translation, (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.) 1996.*

³⁰*Holy Bible, New Living Translation, (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.) 1996.*

Note that love is also KIND while it waits patiently on God and others. If we cannot wait until we have the money to purchase something and we go to 'Babylon', (i.e., the bank or credit company) in order to obtain the item, be it a house, car, stereo, etc., we are going against the principle of patience, and therefore against the love of God. We will pay much more for the item, because Babylon wants interest. Sometimes we will still be paying for the item when it wears out or needs to be replaced. This can lead to more debt, and on and on it goes until some people get so far into debt, they can never get out. Then they try to fix it by going through bankruptcy. Most people do not learn their lesson however, and continue to use credit even when they have 'ruined' their credit. Those with so called 'bad credit' will pay even higher interest the next time they borrow, because they often cannot or will not pay back the loans. This makes everyone pay more for their loans, since someone has to pay for these bad debts.

*What has happened recently in the world is that the greed from the lending institutions has reached epic proportions. They began loaning money to so many people who could ill afford to pay it back, and defaulted on their loans, that the banks have had to try to bail one another out with more and more loans. Soon this cycle will have to come to an end. It may well end in economic recession of nations, particularly the United States. If this happens, then it may not take much terrorist activity to bring the United States to its knees. If the economy of the United States fails, other countries may follow suit. This may set the stage for the end time events spoken of by Jesus and the prophets, (see the handout 'Revelation Revealed'). **In any case, we as Christians must obey the command of God and leave Babylon. We must get out of debt and stay out of debt.** This obedience to God's Word may encourage God to help us avoid some or all of the problems that lie just ahead, (see the handout 'The Trouble That Lies Just Ahead'). Amen.*